

Water Meter News

FALL 2012

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER ON THE CITY OF LODI'S WATER METER PROGRAM

ISSUE 6



Contractors repave a street (right) after installing a new water main (left) during work in Phase 2 of the meter program



2nd installation phase nearing completion

The second of seven phases of the City of Lodi's Water Meter Program is scheduled to be completed in November.

The City's contractor, Teichert Construction, has installed five miles of replacement water mains and will finish November having installed 2,150 new meters at homes in north Lodi. Meters are expected to begin being read by the City as early as December 2012.

In some cases where a new meter box and water service was installed in the front yard, Teichert Construction may still need access to the backyard to disconnect the old service and activate the new service from the front; impacted residents will be notified by the contractor. In September, efforts began to associate each installed

meter assembly to the corresponding parcel and customer account. This work also will require a City representative to gain access to backyard meters.

Lodi residents with construction-related questions or concerns should



This is one of 129 water main valves installed in 2012 as part of Lodi's meter program.

contact Teichert Construction, attention Adam Storm, at (530) 406-4286.

City residents within the Phase 2 area will receive a comparative water bill later in 2013. This will provide a customer with a sampling that contains several months of water use data before actual usage-based billings begins in January 2014. The comparative bills will let customers know how their water bills may change and effect changes in their water use practices, or help identify potential leaks, before the metered billing takes effect.

The City will be retrofitting properties with meters through 2017 to comply with the State law requiring all water agencies to bill according to metered water use.

Want more information?

Visit www.lodi.gov/meters for FAQ's and documents related to the City of Lodi's Water Meter Program.



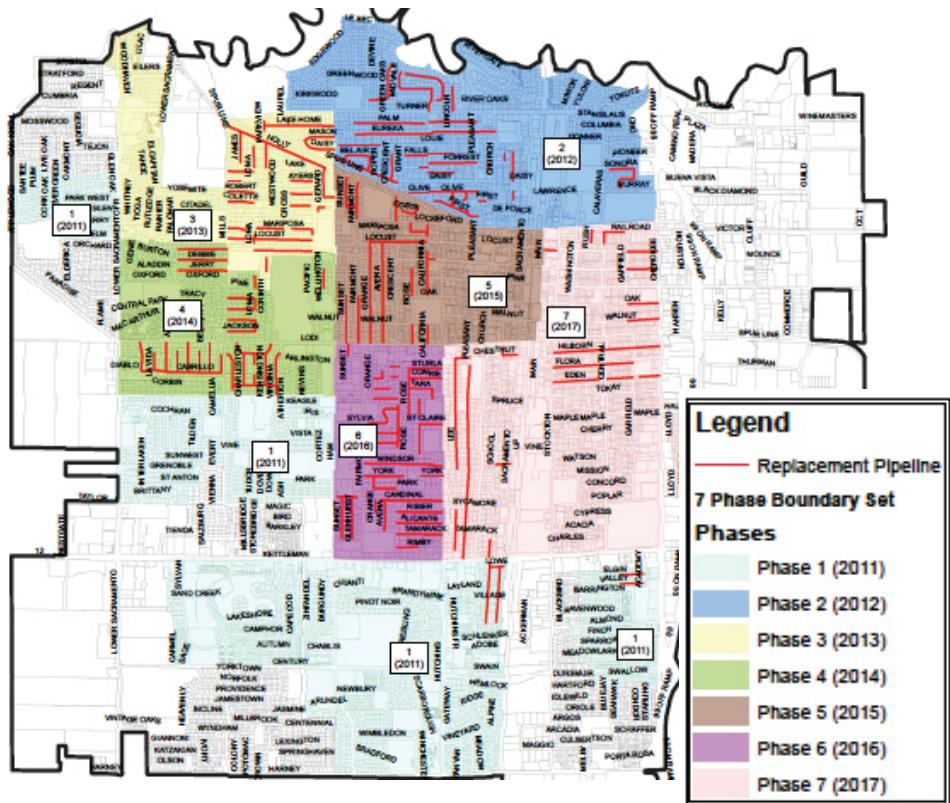
Questions? Call the City of Lodi's Public Works Department

(209) 333-6740; email pwdept@lodi.gov

Northwest Lodi next area to receive meters

Construction of the Water Meter Program Phase 3 is expected to begin in April 2013 and conclude in October 2013. The project will consist of installing approximately 1,470 meters and 4-miles of replacement water mains within various streets as shown in the map.

Residents in the affected areas will receive advance notification of construction in their neighborhoods from the City's contractor. The Water Meter Page (www.lodi.gov/meters) contains frequently asked questions specific to construction and the overall meter schedule.



Winter water use will affect future sewer bills

Lodi residents receiving metered water bills have extra incentive to be mindful of their water use this winter. Residents with water meters installed in 2011 will have their wastewater bills adjusted in July 2013 to reflect their domestic water use measured this coming winter. This is calculated by using a resident's average water consumption for December through February when outdoor irrigation use is minimal. This winter water use reflects how much water enters the sewage system, assuming that most water used at a residence during the winter goes down the drain. The wastewater treatment cost varies with the amount of water flushed into the sewer.

The existing method of linking wastewater rates to the number of bedrooms in a home will be phased out

with the installation of water meters. Those residents who are thrifty with their water will not only see a reduced water bill, but their wastewater charges will likely decline as well. Residents who are not mindful of their water use during the winter could be billed for higher wastewater charges beginning in July, depending on their bedroom count.

Once the water-based sewer charge is set, it will last for 12 months and then readjust the following July to reflect water use in the previous winter. Residents who were part of the 2012's Phase 2 water meter installation program will not have their wastewater rate changed until July 2014, following their first full winter of metered water use. Residents receiving meters in 2013 will see their wastewater billing change in July 2015.

Multi-family and non-residential units to come

The multi-family and non-residential component of Lodi's water meter program consists of installing meters at the larger residential properties (more than four units), and the commercial and industrial properties within Lodi. Water meters for mobile home park properties have already been installed.

Design and construction will be completed in two phases: outside of downtown and within downtown. The first design phase will begin in the fall of this year with construction completed by late spring of 2013. The second design phase could begin as early as spring 2013 with construction completion as early as fall 2013.

How Often Should I Water?

SUMMER NO MORE THAN 3 TIMES PER WEEK	FALL NO MORE THAN 3 TIMES PER WEEK
SPRING NO MORE THAN 3 TIMES PER WEEK	WINTER NO MORE THAN 1 TIME PER WEEK